



# Distillate Watch

April 19, 2000

Energy Information Administration  
Office of Oil & Gas

## SUPPLY

- Distillate stocks plummeted 3.9 million barrels to 92.8 million barrels (MMB) as of April 14, 2000. The fifth consecutive drop in stocks has already pushed the total below the low end of the normal range for April and short of the 125.6 MMB stored this time last year. Low sulfur stocks were at 59.4 MMB, off 1.7 MMB from last week while heating oil stocks decreased 2.2 MMB to 33.4 MMB. Distillate production failed to move from the 3.4 million barrels per day (MMBD) recorded last week but imports increased by 312 thousand barrels per day. Demand surged 0.8 MMBD to 4.2 million barrels per day.
- Crude oil input to U.S. refineries was unchanged at 15.0 MMBD this week with refiners utilizing 92.4 percent of 16.3 MMBD in operating capacity.

### Distillate Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	03/24/00	03/31/00	04/07/00	04/14/00	04/16/99	03/24/00	03/31/00	04/07/00	04/14/00	04/16/99
East Coast (PADD I)	478	517	461	441	364	215	279	273	260	191
Midwest (PADD II)	827	752	756	745	843	602	560	565	529	568
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	1,574	1,544	1,628	1,592	1,536	1,110	1,068	1,134	1,087	1,043
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	145	144	150	127	116	120	117	123	98	88
West Coast (PADD V)	425	427	444	518	416	330	332	360	415	325
U.S. Total	3,449	3,384	3,439	3,423	3,275	2,377	2,356	2,455	2,389	2,215

### Distillate Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	03/24/00	03/31/00	04/07/00	04/14/00	04/14/99	03/24/00	03/31/00	04/07/00	04/14/00	04/14/99
East Coast (PADD I)	30.1	29.9	28.4	26.5	48.7	12.1	12.5	12.5	12.4	16.6
PADD IX	4.4	3.7	3.3	3.4	NA	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.1	NA
PADD IY	16.4	15.5	15.4	13.8	NA	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.5	NA
PADD IZ	9.3	10.7	9.7	9.3	NA	5.5	6.2	5.8	5.8	NA
Midwest (PADD II)	28.7	29.0	28.4	27.4	31.3	19.8	20.2	19.9	18.9	21.8
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	25.9	23.6	25.4	24.7	31.1	17.6	15.8	17.0	16.4	19.1
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.4
West Coast (PADD V)	11.2	11.5	11.1	11.3	11.7	8.7	9.0	8.8	9.0	8.6
U.S. Total	98.9	97.3	96.7	92.8	125.6	60.9	60.5	61.1	59.4	68.6

\* See the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report* Appendix A for a description of the derivation of average inventory levels.  
For information about distillate supply data, contact the National Energy Information Center at (202)586-8800. Internet: [Infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:Infoctr@eia.doe.gov).  
Source: Energy Information Administration, Weekly Petroleum Status Report (WPSR). Year-ago production data taken from comparable week last year; year-ago stock data interpolated from final Petroleum Supply Monthly data.

## PRICES

- A correction in petroleum spot prices from the lows recorded a week ago was aided by a statement from Iran supporting Saudi Arabia against the possibility of an increase in production quotas at the next OPEC meeting in June. Product markets were impacted by the outage of a few refining units, including Motiva's Port Arthur catalytic cracker, a reformer at a Crown Central facility in Pasadena, and Valero's heavy oil cracker in Corpus Christi. Agricultural demand pressured Midwest distillate supplies. As of April 17, 2000, the New York Harbor spot price for low sulfur diesel was up 2.62 cents to 71.92 cents per gallon.
- Down almost 10 cents in the last five weeks, the national average retail on-highway diesel fuel price dipped below \$1.40 per gallon for the first time since the beginning of the year. As of April 17, 2000, the average was 139.8 cents per gallon, 2.1 cents less than last week but 31.8 cents higher than last year. One of the larger declines occurred in California where the price was off 2.6 cents.

### No. 2 Distillate Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Low-Sulfur Distillate					High-Sulfur Distillate				
	03/27/00	04/03/00	04/10/00	04/17/00	04/19/99	03/27/00	04/03/00	04/10/00	04/17/00	04/19/99
New York	76.07	80.81	69.30	<b>71.92</b>	44.75	73.70	77.55	68.51	<b>75.13</b>	43.38
Chicago	85.70	79.94	69.30	<b>75.54</b>	46.75	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
Houston	71.45	74.68	67.06	<b>75.13</b>	43.13	69.90	68.68	63.14	<b>71.93</b>	40.90
Los Angeles (CARB)	95.50	84.50	80.75	<b>80.50</b>	53.50	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA

Source: Reuters Information Services.

### No. 2 Distillate Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes\*)

District	On-Highway Diesel Fuel					Residential Heating Oil				
	03/27/00	04/03/00	04/10/00	04/17/00	04/19/99	03/27/00	04/03/00	04/10/00	04/17/00	04/19/99
East Coast (PADD I)	144.9	143.6	141.4	<b>140.0</b>	105.5	<div>Prices Available During Heating Season Only (October through March)</div>				
PADD IX	150.5	148.5	146.9	<b>146.8</b>	110.1					
PADD IY	152.5	150.2	148.5	<b>148.3</b>	113.4					
PADD IZ	141.1	140.3	137.9	<b>135.9</b>	101.7					
Midwest (PADD II)	142.6	142.6	140.6	<b>138.2</b>	104.6					
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	140.1	138.7	136.5	<b>135.4</b>	104.5					
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	150.9	151.5	150.3	<b>146.9</b>	114.9					
West Coast (PADD V)	159.7	156.9	152.4	<b>148.6</b>	128.2					
California	163.2	161.2	157.6	<b>155.0</b>	138.2					
U.S. Average**	145.1	144.2	141.9	<b>139.8</b>	108.0					

Source: Diesel Fuel prices: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-888, On-Highway Diesel Price Survey; Residential Heating Oil prices for PADDs I and II: from data supplied by 21 State Energy Offices (SHOPP prices) from October through mid-March.

\* Taxes, if any, are not included in residential heating oil prices.

\*\* Residential heating oil average is for PADDs I and II only.

NA =Not Available.

For information about distillate spot and diesel fuel retail price data, contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800; Internet: [Infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:Infoctr@eia.doe.gov).